

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 /061 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:PWLANDE:DE
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:PWLANDE
-----050904Z 010928 /15
R 042059Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US

SUBJECT: MAY 3 STATE DAILY NEWS BRIEFING

THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE AT THE MAY 3 STATE DAILY
NEWS BRIEFING.

QUOTE IT HAS BEEN RAISED AS A MATTER OF SOME PRESS INTEREST
THAT MR. BHUTTO, IN PAKISTAN, HAS REFERRED TO SECRETARY
VANCE'S COMMUNICATION WITH HIM, WHICH MR. BHUTTO INDICATED
WAS ASKING FOR SECRET MEETINGS AND GAVE A NUMBER OF IN-
TERESTING TWISTS TO WHAT IS THE CABLE THAT WAS SENT BY
SECRETARY VANCE ON APRIL 28, WHICH I WOULD LIKE TO READ:

HE SENT THE FOLLOWING LETTER (TEXT OMITTED).

Q. HODDING, DO WE HAVE AN AMBASSADOR IN PAKISTAN NOW?

A. WE HAVE A CHARGE' THERE.
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Q. WE ARE WITHDRAWING GEORGE VEST'S NOMINATION, OR YOU
ARE -- NOT ME, I HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT -- BECAUSE I
WONDERED ABOUT THE IMPACT ON PAKISTAN'S RELATIONS WITH --

A. WELL, LOOK, ON BACKGROUND, YES

Q. O.K. WILL THAT MEAN THERE WILL BE A NEW NOMINATION MADE SHORTLY, OR WILL THERE BE A SORT OF A LONG --

A. NO.

Q. --SOMETIMES THAT IS USED FOR A POLITICAL PLOY.

A. ALL RIGHT, STILL ON BACKGROUND. VERY CLEARLY, WE ARE GOING TO MOVE WITH THE SAME SPEED THAT WE GIVE TO OTHER POSTS TO REPLACE OUR AMBASSADOR IN PAKISTAN. (LAUGHTER) NO. WHAT I MEAN IS, THERE IS NOTHING -- THAT ONE I DON'T NEED -- WE ARE CLEARLY MOVING --

Q. --QUOTE WITH ALL DELIBERATE SPEED. UNQUOTE (LAUGHTER)

A. -- WITH NO LESS URGENCY THAN THAT GIVEN TO OTHER POSTS, TO NAME A NEW MAN TO THAT POST. AND IN NO WAY IS THE WITHDRAWAL OF MR. VEST CONNECTED WITH ANY DIFFICULTIES WE MAY HAVE HAD WITH PAKISTAN OVER THE LAST WEEK OR SO.

Q. TO GET BACK TO PAKISTANI ASPECT, MR. VANCE'S CABLE, AS YOU READ IT, SAID THAT MILITARY EQUIPMENT, SALES AND SHIPMENTS HAVE NEVER BEEN INTERRUPTED. IS THIS SAYING, THEN, THAT WE DID NOT WITHHOLD TEAR GAS FROM THEM, OR HOW FAR BACK IN HISTORY IS THAT STATEMENT SUPPOSED TO GO, BECAUSE THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF INTERRUPTIONS IN OUR MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH PAKISTAN.

A. I THINK THE TEAR GAS IS CONSIDERED A SPECIAL CASE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH IT WAS HELD UP AT A MOMENT IN WHICH IT'S USE -- IT'S BEING SENT AT THAT MOMENT DIDN'T SEEM TO BE APPROPRIATE. BUT THE GENERAL PIPELINE OF MILITARY SUPPLIES HAS NOT BEEN CUT OFF.

Q. NOT BEEN CUT OFF WHAT, SINCE THIS ADMINISTRATION BEGAN? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

A. I THINK THE SECRETARY HAS GOT TO SPEAK FOR HIMSELF ON THAT, AND THAT'S WHAT HE IS TALKING ABOUT, THAT WE HAVE HAD NO INTENTION OF DOING IT, AND HAVEN'T DONE IT.

YOU KNOW, THAT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT QUESTION. UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PWLANDE:DE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Review Date: 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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To: ISLAMABAD
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